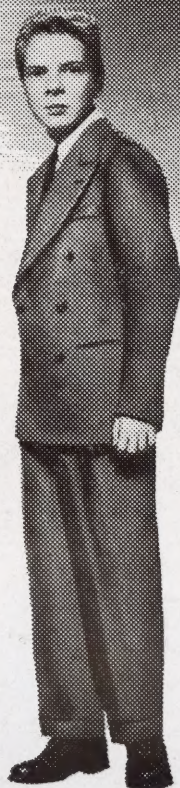


HOW DARING A DECISION  
CAN ONE BOY MAKE?



...to kindle  
or kill  
a love  
like this!

#### THE CAST

Mrs. Blake.....ALEXIS SMITH  
Mr. Blake.....ROBERT DOUGLAS  
Judge Adamson.....CECIL KELLAWAY  
Christopher Blake.....TED DONALDSON  
Courtroom Attendant..HARRY DAVENPORT  
Mr. Caldwell.....JOHN HOYT  
Clara.....MARY WICKES  
Mr. Kurlick.....ART BAKER  
Miss McIntyre.....LOIS MAXWELL  
J. Roger Bascomb.....DOUGLAS KENNEDY  
Upton.....BERT HANLON

#### THE STORY

(Not for Publication)

Moss Hart's brilliant Broadway production, acclaimed by critics and public alike, and now effectively translated into a motion picture, is the interesting portrait of a couple brought back to happiness by the imagination of their young son. The Blakes, (Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas) decide on a divorce, the decision leaving their young and sensitive son, played by Ted Donaldson, much bewildered. He is an imaginative youth, whose innermost thoughts give vent to fantastic dreams, which are motivated by the impending divorce action. The other woman in his father's life puzzles him, and only in these dreams is he able to draw up a mental picture of what may actually happen if a decree is granted. Each time he has these flights of fancy, both his mother and father figure in the sequences. However, when the trial nears, he breaks down before the kindly judge. Cecil Kellaway, who plays this role, has a heart-to-heart talk with the lad, and a course of action is decided upon between these two. When Alexis comes in, Ted announces that he wants to remain with his father. This crushes Alexis. Then when Douglas appears, Ted tells him he has decided to stay with his mother. In this manner, Alexis and Douglas are drawn together again and their life is patched up. All three leave the courtroom happy.

Running time: 75 minutes

★ The  
Moss Hart play  
that smashed  
the heart  
of Broadway  
is the great new  
**WARNER BROS.**  
hit! ★

## "The Decision of Christopher Blake"

starring

ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS

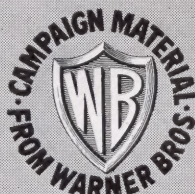
with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Raïald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner



DIRECTED BY

PETER GODFREY

Ad Mat 401—4 columns x 11¾ inches (656 lines)





IS IT  
FAIR  
FOR  
ME



*This is  
Chris ...  
He  
didn't like  
the game  
they played  
... it hurt  
too much!*

TO JUDGE A  
LOVE LIKE THEIRS!!!

Moss Hart's  
stage smash  
is the new  
dramatic  
triumph  
from  
**WARNER  
BROS.!**

## "The Decision of Christopher Blake"

starring

ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS

DIRECTED BY  
PETER GODFREY

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

Mat 304—3 Cols. x 9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> Inches (393 Lines)





DON'T MAKE UP YOUR MIND  
ABOUT HER UNTIL YOU  
KNOW *"The Decision  
of Christopher  
Blake"*

From the sensational stage play by MOSS HART  
THE PLAY THEY SAID **COULDN'T BE SCREENED!**

THIS IS  
CHRIS  
the boy  
whose  
finger  
of scorn  
changed a  
shattered  
life

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

**WARNER BROS'.**  
NEW DRAMATIC HIT



DIRECTED BY  
**PETER GODFREY**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT · Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ranaid MacDougall · As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart · Music by Max Steiner

Mat 302—3 Cols. x 7¾ Inches (324 Lines)

*This ad available in two-column size. See page 5.*

**WARNER BROS'.** NEW DRAMATIC HIT

**THE DECISION OF  
CHRISTOPHER BLAKE**

STARRING

**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**



with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT · Based on the play by MOSS HART · DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY  
Screen Play by Ranaid MacDougall · As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart · Music by Max Steiner

Mat 202—2 Cols. x 2½ Inches (70 Lines)

←  
**Good  
For A  
Herald  
Too!**  
←



HOW DARING A DECISION  
CAN ONE BOY MAKE?



...to kindle  
or kill  
a love  
like this!



★ The  
Moss Hart play  
that smashed  
the heart  
of Broadway  
is the great new  
**WARNER BROS.**  
hit! ★

# "The Decision of Christopher Blake"

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS** DIRECTED BY **PETER GODFREY**  
with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

Mat 303—3 Cols. x 8¾ Inches (369 Lines)

*This ad available in four-column size. See front cover.*

— BOTH ADS ON ONE MAT — ORDER MAT 101 —

**WARNER BROS. NEW  
DRAMATIC HIT**

**THE  
DECISION  
OF CHRISTOPHER  
BLAKE**

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH  
ROBERT DOUGLAS**

DIRECTED BY  
**PETER GODFREY**  
with CECIL KELLAWAY  
TED DONALDSON  
HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

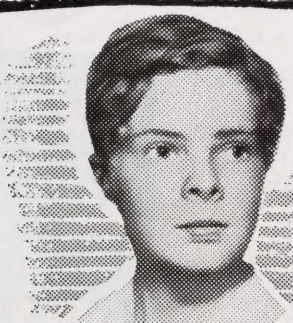
1 Col. x 2 Inches (28 Lines)

**WARNER BROS. THE DECISION OF  
CHRISTOPHER BLAKE**

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS** DIRECTED BY **PETER GODFREY**  
with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

1 Col. x 1⅛ Inches (17 Lines)





*This is Chris . . .  
whose daring dream  
came true!*

**He knew more than was good  
for a boy his age...**

**"The Decision  
of Christopher  
Blake"**

**— BUT  
WHAT  
HE KNEW  
WAS  
AWFULLY  
GOOD  
FOR  
THEM!**

**WARNER BROS'. NEW DRAMATIC HIT**

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage  
by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY

Mat 301—3 Cols. x 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub> Inches (270 Lines)

*This ad available in two-column size. See page 6.*



**DON'T MAKE UP YOUR MIND  
ABOUT HER UNTIL YOU  
KNOW "The Decision  
of Christopher  
Blake"**

**THIS IS  
CHRIS  
the boy  
whose  
finger  
of scorn  
changed a  
shattered  
life**

From the sensational stage play by MOSS HART  
THE PLAY THEY SAID COULDN'T BE SCREENED!

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY

**WARNER BROS'.  
NEW DRAMATIC HIT**

Mat 206—2 Cols. x 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> Inches (146 Lines)

*This ad available in three-column size. See page 3.*



**THE  
KIND  
OF  
WOMAN  
A MAN  
COULDN'T  
TRUST...**




**BUT  
A BOY  
COULD!**

*Don't make up your mind  
about her until you know*

**"THE *DECISION* OF  
CHRISTOPHER  
BLAKE"**

WARNER BROS.' NEW HIT

STARRING  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Randal MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

DIRECTED BY  
**PETER GODFREY**



Mat 209—2 Cols. x 11 3/4 Inches (328 Lines)

**WAS  
SHE  
EVIL?  
WAS  
SHE  
ANGEL?**



*The Boy she deceived has to decide!*

**DON'T MAKE UP YOUR  
MIND ABOUT HER UNTIL YOU KNOW**

**"The *Decision* of Christopher Blake"**

WARNER BROS.' NEW DRAMATIC HIT

STARRING  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Randal MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

DIRECTED BY  
**PETER GODFREY**



Mat 207—2 Cols. x 6 1/8 Inches (172 Lines)



*This is Chris...  
whose daring dream  
came true!*

**He knew more than was good  
for a boy his age...**

**— BUT  
WHAT  
HE KNEW  
WAS  
AWFULLY  
GOOD  
FOR  
THEM!**

**"The *Decision*  
of Christopher  
Blake"**

WARNER BROS.' NEW DRAMATIC HIT

STARRING  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by Randal MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

DIRECTED BY  
**PETER GODFREY**



Mat 204—2 Cols. x 4 1/4 Inches (120 Lines)

*This ad available in three-column size. See page 5.*



## AD ART AVAILABLE

*Retouched Ad Art Used In This Campaign  
Available as 8 x 10 Stills.*

**Order From National Screen Service**

**WARNER BROS'.**  
NEW DRAMATIC HIT

**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART • Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

Directed by PETER GODFREY

Mat 208—2 Cols. x 6 1/4 inches (174 Lines)

**WARNER BROS' NEW DRAMATIC TRIUMPH**

**"The Decision of Christopher Blake"**

**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART

Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall  
As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

**PETER GODFREY**

Mat 205—2 Cols. x 4 3/4 Inches (134 Lines)

**THE DECISION OF CHRISTOPHER BLAKE**

**WARNER BROS' HIT**

**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • Based on the play by MOSS HART • Screen Play by Ronald MacDougall • As produced on the stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart • Music by Max Steiner

Directed by PETER GODFREY

Mat 102—1 Col. x 5 3/4 Inches (81 Lines)





The boy she deceives has to decide, too!

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT  
Based on the play by MOSS HART • Screen Play by RANALD MACDOUGALL  
As produced on the stage by JOSEPH M. HYMAN and BERNARD HART • Music by MAX STEINER

WARNER BROS. HIT  
DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY

Mat 103—1 Col. x 8 1/8 Inches (113 Lines)

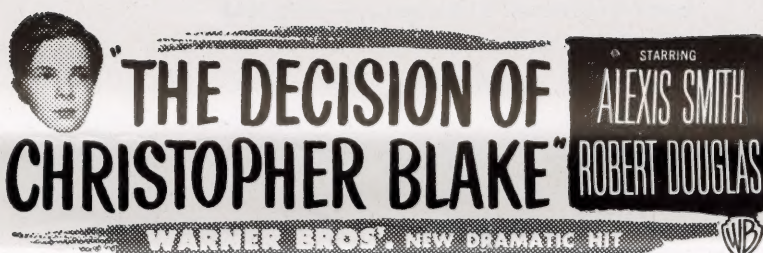


WARNER BROS. NEW DRAMATIC HIT

starring  
**ALEXIS SMITH · ROBERT DOUGLAS**

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT  
Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by RANALD MACDOUGALL • As produced on the stage by JOSEPH M. HYMAN and BERNARD HART • Music by MAX STEINER  
DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY

Mat 203—2 Cols. x 3 5/8 Inches (100 Lines)



WARNER BROS. NEW DRAMATIC HIT

with CECIL KELLAWAY · TED DONALDSON · HARRY DAVENPORT • MOSS HART • PETER GODFREY

Based on the play by MOSS HART  
Screen Play by RANALD MACDOUGALL • As produced on the stage by JOSEPH M. HYMAN and BERNARD HART • Music by MAX STEINER  
DIRECTED BY PETER GODFREY

Mat 201—2 Cols. x 1 1/2 Inches (44 Lines)

### Official Billing

(NOTE: This credit must be 50%)

WARNER BROS. 50%

Pictures, Inc., Presents 5%

## "THE DECISION OF CHRISTOPHER BLAKE"

Starring 100%

**ALEXIS SMITH — ROBERT DOUGLAS** 75%

with

CECIL KELLAWAY 10%

TED DONALDSON — HARRY DAVENPORT 10%

Directed by Peter Godfrey 25%

Screen Play by RANALD MACDOUGALL 2%

Based on the Play by MOSS HART 10%

As Produced on the Stage by 2%

JOSEPH M. HYMAN and BERNARD HART 2%

Music by MAX STEINER 3%

A Warner Bros. 5%

First National Picture 2%

### Latest Warner Bros. Shorts

"JUNGLE MAN KILLERS" . . . Hunting one of the jungle's fiercest denizens, the man-eating Bengal Tiger, provides action and excitement in this Technicolor thriller.

5501 . . . Technicolor Sports Parade—10 min.

"MY BUNNY LIES OVER THE SEA" . . . Bugs Bunny burrows underground to the La Brea tar pits and by error finds himself in bonnie Scotland where he crosses swords with a wily little Scot.

4721 . . . Bugs Bunny Technicolor Special—7 min.

"SKI DEVILS" . . . Packs into a single reel the complete story of skiing with all its thrills and all its beauty. Written and directed by Robert Youngson, the film features some of the most spectacular scenes of ski jumping and downhill skiing ever filmed.

5602 . . . Sports News Review—10 min.

"BANNISTER'S BANTERING BABIES" . . . A delightful short. Constance Bannister, photographer of babies and animals, shows how she turned a hobby into a national institution.

5802 . . . Technicolor Adventure Special—10 min.

"DRUMS OF INDIA" . . . India, the land of fantasy, fakirs, sacred cows, Kipling and the Bengal Lancers receives spectacular Technicolor coverage in this thrilling 2-reeler.

5002 . . . Technicolor Special—20 min.



# EXPLOITATION

## Window Stills

Available as set of 4 or individually by number.

ORDER "WINDOW STILLS No. 687."



Lex.1049  
Pocketbooks



Lex.1099  
Sportswear



Lex.1173  
Swim Suits



Play Shoes  
T-372

## Show This to City Editor!

### Candid Cameraman

#### THE QUESTION.

In Warner Bros.' "The Decision of Christopher Blake," a twelve-year-old's decision solves a vital human problem for his elders. Do you recall making any similar decision of importance in your youth?

#### THE PLACE.

Main and Fourth Sts.

#### THE ANSWERS.

Mrs. Jane Doe, Hill Ave., home: "Yes, when I was ten, my father was offered a position in another town and wanted to take it, but after talking it over with my mother, he just couldn't decide whether to pull up stakes and start all over again. They asked me



## Free

### Radio Records

One-minute announcements, and 15-second station breaks; individual interviews (5 minutes each) with film stars Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas! All allow live announcement time.

Order all three records from Warner Bros.' Campaign Plan Editor, 321 W. 44th St., New York 18, N.Y.

## Standee Cut-Out In Your Lobby

Alexis Smith figure available as retouched 8 x 10 to blow up and cut out as shown. Staff artist prepares suggested panel. Add baby spot and set up display in important corner or near box-office.

Order "Still No. 687-76."



## NOBODY SEATED DURING . . .

Set up a large clock and alongside list several short periods of time, as 7:35 P.M. to 7:42 P.M., etc. Copy card reads:

#### NOTICE!

No One Seated During These Intervals  
You'll Know Why When  
You've Heard

THE DECISION OF CHRISTOPHER BLAKE

## Newsbreaks Cue Local Stunt!

See recent news clips, right. Promote your own kids' poll to determine "Ideal Parents". Work it in cooperation with PTA group, a local child psychologist, or a radio personality. Suggest a story-picture layout, like these, to your feature editor.



## National Tie-Up



DE LONG'S full-page, 4-color ad (above) featuring Lois Maxwell and crediting film appears in True Confessions, Movie Story and Motion Picture.

## CONTEST IDEA

"The Decision of Christopher Blake" is playwright Moss Hart's sixth stage hit to reach the screen. The other five are: "The Man Who Came to Dinner," "Once in a Lifetime," "You Can't Take It With You," "As Thousands Cheer" and "Lady in the Dark." Set up lobby or newspaper contest illustrating scenes from these hits. Ask contestants to identify them.



(Advance)

# 'Decision of Christopher Blake' With Alexis Smith Due At Strand

"The Decision of Christopher Blake," one of Warner Bros.' most challenging productions, starring Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, is announced as the Strand Theatre's next attraction, starting on Friday.

This is Moss Hart's vivid portrait of a family faced with a break-up and its effect on the mind and happiness of an adolescent, played in the film by Ted Donaldson. During its Broadway run, "The Decision of Christopher Blake" was wide-

ly acclaimed by the press and public. Hart's flights into the fantastic as the emotional dilemma of young Christopher transfers itself to his innermost thoughts, provides one of the most arresting films which Hollywood has ever screened.

Robert Douglas, popular British actor, plays opposite Miss Smith in this drama. During the war he served in the Fleet Air Arm of the British Navy. Warners consider him one of their most promising newcom-

ers signed during the past year. Young Donaldson, who plays the son makes another important stride in a career which so far, embraces stage, screen, radio and television.

Importantly cast in the picture are: Cecil Kellaway, Harry Davenport, John Hoyt, Mary Wickes, Lois Maxwell, Harry Davenport, Art Baker, Renee Godfrey and Douglas Kennedy. Peter Godfrey directed this film. Max Steiner is responsible for the distinguished musical frame.

(Opening Day)

## STRAND PRESENTS NEW BILL TODAY

A drama packed with emotional appeal, Warner Bros. "The Decision of Christopher Blake," starring Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, opens today at the Strand Theatre.

Adapted from Moss Hart's well-known Broadway hit, which won widespread approval when it first hit the boards as a legitimate production, "The Decision of Christopher Blake" acquires deeper feeling and breadth through the magic of the cinema. The story unfolds against a family rift, with the shattering effect on the mind of a young son. His imagination runs riot as the drama is told, with 'trick' sequences portraying his innermost thoughts. These scenes are said to be among the most fascinating and unusual ever attempted in a motion picture.

Alexis Smith's role as the wife and mother demands a dignity and simplicity, which gives her a chance for a strong portrayal. Opposite her as the husband and father, is Robert Douglas, well known London stage star, who is now making his American bow under Warner's banner. Ted Donaldson, Cecil Kellaway and Harry Davenport are featured in the attraction.

(Advance)

## Warner Bros. Transfer Stage Hit to Screen

"The Decision of Christopher Blake," Moss Hart's penetrating portrait of discord, and its bewildering effect on the tangible happiness of a sensitive child, emerges as the latest New York stage hit to be transferred to the screen by Warner Bros., the studio that filmed Clarence Day's "Life With Father" and "The Voice of the Turtle," "Johnny Belinda" and the forthcoming stage triumphs, "John Loves Mary" and "The Hasty Heart."

The cast of "The Decision of Christopher Blake" is headed by Alexis Smith, who plays the role of wife and mother, and Robert Douglas, portraying the husband and father. Young Ted Donaldson is the adolescent whose innermost thoughts are transferred to the screen via a series of fascinating 'trick' sequences. Cecil Kellaway, Mary Wickes, Harry Davenport and John Hoyt are others who stand out in the impressive cast.

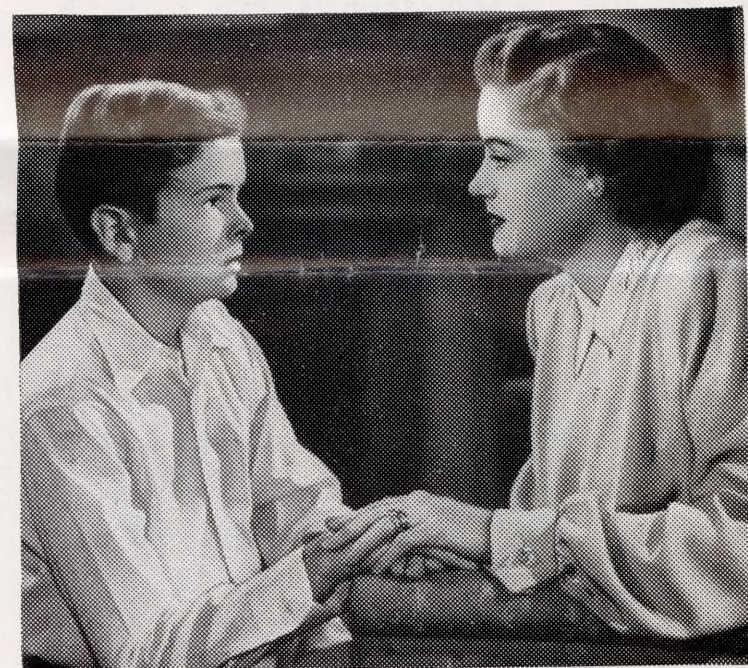
With its excursions into the dreams of the introspective adolescent, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," which opens Friday at the Strand Theatre, is considered a skillful blend of fantasy and realism done in Moss Hart's best creative vein. Peter Godfrey directed this production.



ALEXIS SMITH and ROBERT DOUGLAS play the leading roles in Warner Bros.' vivid drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," adapted from Moss Hart's celebrated stage hit. This attraction opens next Friday at the Strand.

Still 687-566

Mat 687-2C



ALEXIS SMITH with TED DONALDSON, who play mother and son in Warner Bros.' screen version of Moss Hart's sensational Broadway success, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," which premieres next Friday at the Strand Theatre.

Still 687-66x

Mat 687-2B

## SEVEN DIFFERENT ROLES FOR ACTOR

Seven roles in one! That's John Hoyt's assignment in Warner Bros.' challenging drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," starring Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, which opens tomorrow at the Strand Theatre.

During the film, a drama of discord, the story alternates between realism and fantasy as the boy, Christopher, played on the screen by young Ted Donaldson, dreams. That's where Hoyt's varied characterizations enter.

In the realistic episodes, he portrays a crisp-spoken divorce lawyer. For the trick sequences, Hoyt plays (1) a Swedish janitor, (2) an Irish policeman, (3) a school headmaster, (4) a sort of Dick Tracy character, (5) Tweedledee and (6) a political assassin, a fantastic John Wilkes Booth who tries to shoot the President at a meeting.

Hoyt was a name draw in the smart nighteries before embarking on a Hollywood career.

## Actress Bothered About Being Typed

Mary Wickes, the comedienne appearing in Warner Bros. "The Decision of Christopher Blake" with Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, is getting sick of her celebrity.

Wherever she goes, Miss Wickes is recognized from the role she created on the Broadway stage and screen of the nurse constantly insulted by Monty Woolley in "The Man Who Came To Dinner."

Mary agrees that it's a compliment up to a point, being remembered for a part she played six years ago. But what gets her is that the public hails her by her character name in the production.

"And it's tough on a girl's ego," moans Mary. "My admirers all greet me loudly with 'Hi, Miss Bed Pan.' It just ain't romantic."

Mary hopes her luck will change with "The Decision of Christopher Blake."

"But I don't know," she declares morosely. "In that I'm a cook constantly talking and complaining while standing over a hot stove or the kitchen sink."

## Rising Newcomer Wins Prize Role

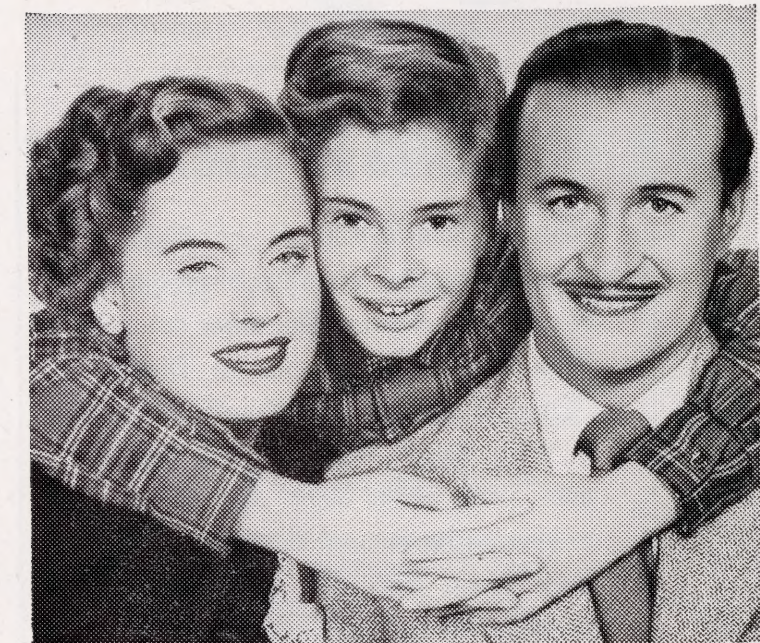
Ted Donaldson, who plays an important role in Warner Bros.' searching drama of discord, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," starring Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, scheduled to open shortly at the Strand Theatre, made his Broadway stage debut when only seven years old. He played the youngest of the now celebrated Day boys in "Life With Father."

## Ballet Slippers Are Her Hobby!

Alexis Smith, starring with Robert Douglas in Warner Bros. "The Decision of Christopher Blake," is starting a unique collection. Being a ballet fan, the actress has begun assembling souvenirs of the dance, including toe shoes of such ballerinas as Alicia Markova, Alexandra Danilova, Nora Kaye, Irina Baronova and Rosella Hightower.

## PRODUCTION STAFF

Produced and Written for the Screen by Randal MacDougall. Directed by Peter Godfrey. Based on the Play by Moss Hart, as produced on the Stage by Joseph M. Hyman and Bernard Hart. Director of Photography, Karl Freund, A.S.C. Art Director, John Beckman. Film Editor, Frederick Richards. Sound by C. A. Riggs. Dialogue Director, Howard Lynn. Set Decorations by Jack McConaghy. Special Effects by Harry Barndollar, Director; Edwin DuPar, A.S.C. Wardrobe by Milo Anderson. Makeup Artist, Perc Westmore. Music by Max Steiner. Orchestrations by Murray Cutter. Musical Director, Leo F. Forbstein. Assistant Director, Claude Archer. Unit Manager, Al Alleborn.



HAPPY FAMILY! Alexis Smith, Robert Douglas with young Ted Donaldson, who comprise the leading trio of players in Warner Bros.' penetrating drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," scheduled for early showing at the Strand Theatre.

Still 687-570

Mat 687-2A



(Prepared Review)

# Warner Bros. Film Dramatic Hit, 'Decision of Christopher Blake'

One of the most challenging films ever produced in Hollywood, Warner Bros.' startling drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," co-starring Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, premiered yesterday at the Strand Theatre. In its screen telling, this celebrated Broadway stage success, provides profound film fare which audiences approved of heartily.

The story itself is simple. A married couple decides to get a divorce after several years of

married life. The main problem however is the young son, played by Ted Donaldson, who is bewildered by the move. He overhears certain conversations between his parents, learns there is another woman in his father's life, but is still completely puzzled by the sudden course of events. His father takes him to the theatre one day, and during the performance the lad falls asleep and dreams about his parents. These dreams crop up periodically, and each time his parents appear in different roles. Young Blake is lifted to the skies in these lapses and tries to solve his problem, but when he awakens he is still befuddled.

Miss Smith's role demands a quiet poise and command which she handles with marked skill. She also demonstrates wide versatility in the 'trick' stanzas, jumping from a femme fatale to a fluttering girl. Douglas, new to Warners' roster, is the father, and conveys that certain depth of character which the role requires. Young Donaldson has a meaty role. Especially in the flash sequences, is he able to project the scope of his rounded talents. John Hoyt also figures in the scenes, practically running the gamut of characterizations. Mary Wickes, delivers dead-pan cracks which accent the penetrating drama. Cecil Kellaway plays the kindly judge, whose human approach proves so valuable to the young son's happiness.

Peter Godfrey's direction is tops. He has directed the 'trick' sequences all in black-and-white, which while bizarre, demonstrate rare imagination. Both Miss Smith and Douglas appear in these unusual bits, also enacting a series of varied roles.

As for the 'decision' which is made . . . that would be giving away too much. Patrons will have to see the film to find this out for themselves. It carries a punch. Moss Hart wrote it.

## Alexis Smith Is Femme Fatale

For one 'trick' sequence in Warner Bros.' much-discussed drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," Alexis Smith enacts the role of femme fatale. She wears a raven-black wig, a black sequin gown and puffs on a cigarette holder, nearly two feet in length. The entire bit is done in startling black-and-white color motif.



**ROBERT DOUGLAS**  
Still 687-RD 8 Mat 687-1B

## Warner Director Expert Magician

Magic is Peter Godfrey's second love, next to films. When not busy on a sound stage, the director of Warner Bros.' sensational drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," which stars Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas, he devotes himself to the practice of the legerdemain. During the war, he presented his act in hospitals and canteens.

## COLUMN CHATTER Facts About Alexis Smith and Robert Douglas

### Did you know—

That Alexis Smith goes all out in Warner Bros.' "The Decision of Christopher Blake," appearing in one of the film's fantastic 'bit' scenes as a femme fatale, a black wig covering her own blonde hair and wearing a form fitting black sequin gown slit up the side for ample leg display?

That, in the same picture, Alexis is flown through the air on wires and was required to do the stunt 21 times during the actual filming of the scene?

That, in her off screen moments, Alexis haunts auctions and antique shops looking for furniture for the San Fernando Valley home she and hubby, Craig Stevens, have bought?

That Alexis has resumed daily ballet lessons now that her broken foot has healed?

That her ambition is to get away from roles in which she has to cry and turn to musicals in which she can dance and sing?

That Alexis Smith is her real name and she refused to change it at the start of her career for something more glamorous than "Smith"?

### Did you know—

That Robert Douglas, who is making his American motion picture debut opposite Alexis Smith in Warner Bros.' "The Decision of Christopher Blake," spent six years in the Fleet Arm of the British Navy during the war and held the rank of Lieutenant Commander when demobilized?

That he was starred on the London and New York stages at the age of 21 and was known as "London's youngest actor-producer"?

That temporary blindness, at the age of 15, from a gas generator explosion was responsible for his taking up acting when the doctor suggested, that for nerves, he should mingle with people and a course at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art was suggested?

That he is married to the sister of the Countess of Warwick and is the proud father of a baby daughter?

That he isn't afraid of playing "a typical American father" in "The Decision of Christopher Blake" because he explains he has more of an American than British accent?



**CLEAR-CUT BEAUTY.** Alexis Smith, one of Hollywood's most natural beauties, plays her strongest dramatic assignment to date, as the mother in Warner Bros.' drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," with Robert Douglas opposite. Due Friday at the Strand.  
Still 687-Lex 1140 Mat 687-2D

## ALEXIS SMITH GOES BRUNETTE

Alexis Smith, caught between takes on the set of Warner Bros.' dramatic film, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," which is now finished and opens tomorrow at the Strand, has something special to say regarding blondes vs. brunettes.

Says Alexis: "Here I am, a blonde, going all out sexy in front of the motion picture camera, but as a raven-haired brunette!"

"All right, my blonde sisters everywhere, you can take it from here. But direct your outraged screams of being insulted to Hollywood, not to me. I merely work there. However, I'll admit I'm on the blondes' side."

"In 'The Decision of Christopher Blake,' the studio's picturization of Moss Hart's Broadway stage success, I play an out and out slithering vampire in one of the trick sequences. I'm my own rival for my husband's affections in the picture. The rival appears only in the dream. Our story concerns discord and in an earlier scene Robert Douglas, my husband, explains to our son, Ted Donaldson, why he has fallen in love with another woman. 'Because she reminded me of your mother,' he says to Ted. So when Ted dreams of the woman who is ruining the happiness of his home and parents, I, the mother, become 'the other woman'."

## Transfers Stage Hit to Celluloid

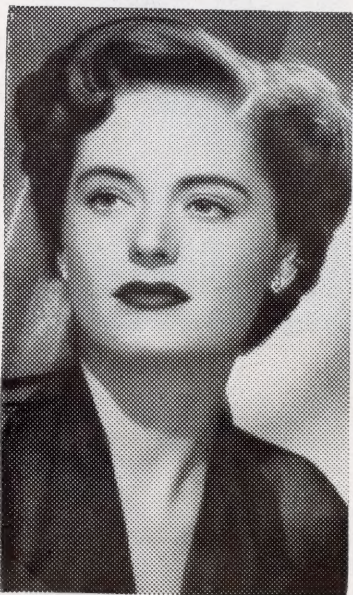
Ranald MacDougall makes his bow as a producer with "The Decision of Christopher Blake," Warner Bros.' much-discussed drama, which comes soon to the Strand Theatre. He also wrote the screenplay of Moss Hart's celebrated stage hit. MacDougall is also known for his scripting of "Mildred Pierce," "Objective Burma" and "Possessed."

## AT STRAND



**ALEXIS SMITH**, lovely Hollywood blonde, goes brunette as a femme fatale in Warner Bros.' new drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," with newcomer Robert Douglas opposite. Due Friday at the Strand.

Still 687-76 Mat 687-1D



**ALEXIS SMITH**  
Still 687-Lex 1140 Mat 687-1A

## Robert Douglas Bows As Statue

How would you like to play a marble statue?

Robert Douglas, co-star with Alexis Smith in Warner Bros.' widely-discussed drama, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," does just that in one particular 'trick' sequence. He had to spend two hours in the makeup chair each day to get ready for the role. Several coats of heavy white paint were applied to give that stony effect!



**TED DONALDSON**  
Still 687-503 Mat 687-1C

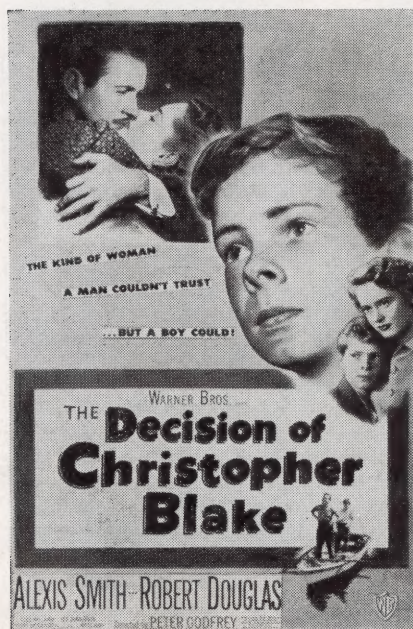
## New Warner Film

Moss Hart, whose vivid drama of discord, "The Decision of Christopher Blake," has been filmed by Warner Bros., is one of Broadway's top-flight playwrights. First teamed with George S. Kaufman, he turned out musical comedies and revues, and later embarked on drama.

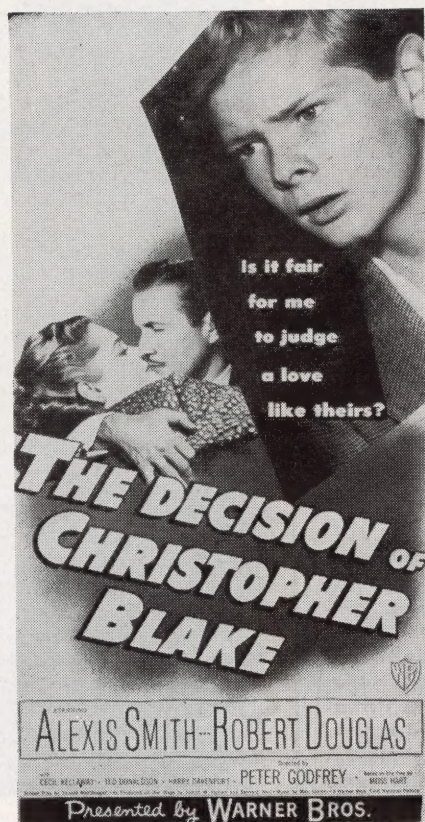


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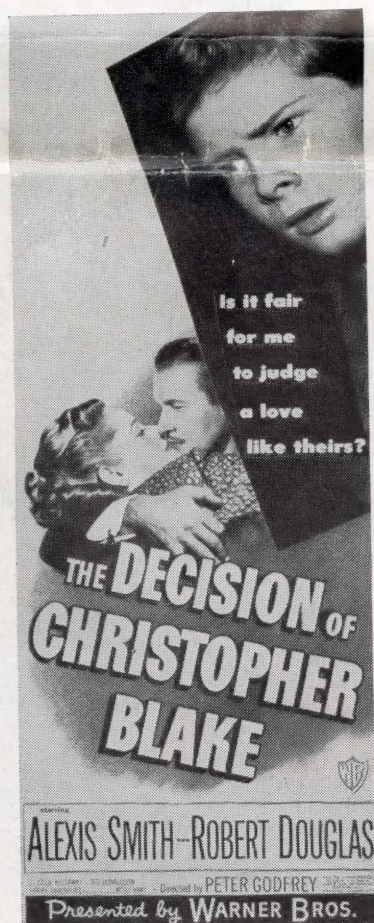
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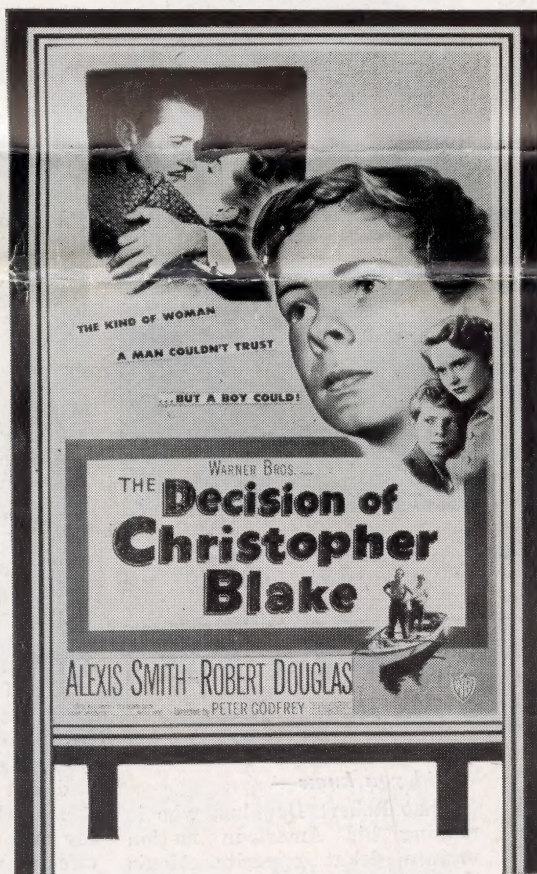
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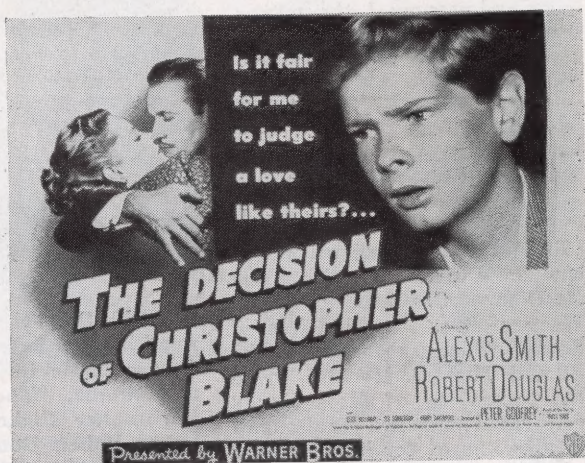
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